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NEWS RELEASE

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GRASS VALLEY MAN RECEIVES 51 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JOSHUA DAVID PACKARD, 26, of Grass Valley, California, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Edward J. Garcia for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

This case is the product of a combined investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and its Chico Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of the Nevada City Police Department, the Grass Valley Police Department, and other state and local law enforcement in and around Nevada County, California.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, PACKARD was arrested at his grandmother's house on April 8, 2007 on a parole violation and for evading officers on a high speed chase through residential neighborhoods the prior day. Incident to his arrest, law enforcement discovered that PACKARD was carrying a loaded Ruger 9mm semi-automatic pistol in a shoulder holster under his sweatshirt. PACKARD had another loaded magazine for his pistol on his person and a 5" folding knife. On April 27, 2007, PACKARD was charged by a federal grand jury with being a felon in possession of a firearm. PACKARD has four prior felony convictions: (1) grand theft, in Nevada County, on or about October 6, 2000; (2) forgery/passing false checks, in Nevada County, on or about October 16, 2000; (3) possession of controlled substance, in Nevada County, on or about January 16, 2003; and (4) evading a peace officer, in Nevada County, on or about March 7, 2003.

In sentencing PACKARD to 51 months in federal prison, Judge Garcia imposed a higher sentence than otherwise called for under federal sentencing guidelines due to the defendant's criminal history. After PACKARD completes his 51 month prison term, he will be on federal supervision for 3 years. PACKARD was also ordered to pay a \$100.00 special assessment. PACKARD has been remanded into federal custody for service of his sentence.

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